United Nations E/2015/L.10

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
28 May 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 20
United Nations research and training institutes

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), on the basis of informal consultations

United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 54/228 of 22 December 1999, 55/207 of 20 December 2000, 55/258 of 14 June 2001, 55/278 of 12 July 2001, 58/224 of 23 December 2003 and 60/214 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolutions 2009/10 of 27 July 2009, 2011/10 of 22 July 2011 and 2013/14 of 23 July 2013,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations System Staff College as an institution for system-wide knowledge management, training and continuous learning for the staff of the United Nations system, in particular in the areas of economic and social development, peace and security and internal management,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] submitted pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 60/214,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations System Staff College over the past two years in providing high-quality learning and training to the United Nations system;

3. *Recognizes* the continuing work of the Staff College to consolidate its central role in inter-agency learning, training and knowledge-sharing, in the light of the current efforts to equip the staff of the United Nations with the right knowledge and the skills necessary to respond to global challenges, including the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Welcomes* the increased role of the Staff College as a catalyst for organizational change and transformation within the United Nations system;

[1] E/2015/54.

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5. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the Staff College in ensuring its sustainability, including through self-generated resources;

6. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system to make full and effective use of the services provided by the Staff College, strengthen cooperation and synergies with the Staff College and encourage the participation of their staff in relevant Staff College courses;

7. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the Staff College by recognizing its unique inter-agency function and its important role in building the capacity of United Nations staff and organizations for the effective and efficient delivery of their mandates.

United Nations E/2015/L.11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
2 June 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 12 (c)
Coordination, programme and other questions: mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), on the basis of informal consultations

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[1] and recalling its resolutions on the subject matter, including resolutions 2011/6 of 14 July 2011, 2012/24 of 27 July 2012, 2013/16 of 24 July 2013 and 2014/2 of 12 June 2014,

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[2] the 2005 World Summit,[3] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[4] the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development[5] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.
[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
[3] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.
[4] See General Assembly resolution 65/1.
[5] See General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

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Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and constitutes a critical strategy in the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[6] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[7] as well as in the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[8] and of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the important roles played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, taking note of the agreed conclusions and decisions of the Commission related to the promotion and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the political declaration on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session,[9]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012, entitled "Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", including in particular section III.D on gender equality and women's empowerment,

Recalling also the section of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 entitled "Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women",

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[10] and the recommendations contained therein, and appreciates that it continues to include comprehensive and systematic system-wide data collection and evidence-based analysis, allowing for comprehensive follow-up on progress made throughout the United Nations system in the implementation of resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on gender mainstreaming;

2. *Urges* intensifying and continuing efforts to mainstream a gender perspective, including increasing resource allocations commensurate with gender equality goals, into all policies and programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Stresses* that the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality constitutes a key forum for advocating, coordinating and monitoring progress in the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the overall substantive normative, operational and programmatic work within the United Nations system, and looks forward to the continued role of the Network in monitoring progress on more

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[6] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[7] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C.

[10] E/2015/58.

effective coordination, coherence and impact in accelerating the implementation of the policy and strategy for gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Also stresses* the need to leverage existing inter-agency networks, including the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, the United Nations Evaluation Group, the Finance and Budget Network of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the Representatives of Internal Audit Services of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, to take increased responsibility for the implementation of relevant action plan performance indicators;

5. *Welcomes* the important and continued extensive work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for more effective and coherent gender mainstreaming across the United Nations, recognizes its role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women, as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289, and also recognizes its role in assisting Member States, upon their request, at the international, regional, national and local levels;

6. *Recognizing* the importance of strengthening the capacity of UN-Women, including through adequate funding, to carry out its mandates for normative support, coordination and operational functions, inter alia, for coordinating the United Nations system in the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective and the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[6] and of its review and appraisal at the international, regional, national and local levels, including through systematic gender mainstreaming, the mobilization of resources to deliver results and the monitoring of progress with data and robust accountability systems;

7. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, including by:

(a) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its operational mechanisms, inter alia, the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other development frameworks;

(b) Ensuring that managers provide strong leadership and support, within the United Nations system, to advance gender mainstreaming;

(c) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(d) Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as to allow for system-wide assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming;

(e) Mobilizing and developing sufficient gender expertise for planning, implementation and gender-related resource allocation and tracking;

(f) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting and intensifying the use of gender marker systems, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

(g) Strengthening capacities and using existing resources, including institutions and infrastructure, to assist in the development and application of unified training modules and tools on gender mainstreaming;

(h) Continuing efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments in the Professional and higher categories within the United Nations system at the headquarters, regional and country levels, including in appointments of resident coordinators, humanitarian coordinators, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other high-level posts, in full compliance with article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries;

8. *Also requests* the United Nations system to continue and increase support to Member States, with their agreement and consent, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the implementation of national policies for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, inter alia, by providing support and capacity development to national machineries for the advancement of women and girls and all national entities, in accordance with their functions;

9. *Welcomes* the report on the third year of implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,[10] and commends the progress made under the leadership of UN-Women in the performance of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming;

10. *Requests* the continued use of reporting under the System-wide Action Plan to inform the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, in order to measure the progress of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming at the corporate level against the baseline defined in 2013;

11. *Encourages* the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and senior managers to continue to take concrete action to promote gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, and in this regard, takes note of the commitment of the Chief Executives Board, as expressed in its statement to the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to stepping up efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls under all respective mandates, including through pursuing systematic gender mainstreaming, substantially increasing resources to deliver results, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, monitoring progress with better statistics and data disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, disability and age, and instituting robust accountability systems, including through the full implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan, as well as accelerating progress towards the equal representation of women at all levels in its diverse bodies, including through temporary special measures;

12. *Takes note* with appreciation of the interactive dialogue with representatives of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, as an example of exchanging best practices and approaches to considering gender equality in the work of the functional commissions, enhancing the attention of intergovernmental bodies to gender equality issues and promoting an active and

visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;

13. *Recognizes* that large gaps remain between policy and practice and that, while building the capacities of United Nations staff is very important, additional efforts, such as those recommended in the report of the Secretary-General, would enable the entire United Nations system to meet its commitments and obligations with respect to gender mainstreaming;

14. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(a) Fully implementing the System-wide Action Plan, including by ensuring compliance with performance standards and reporting requirements by all entities of the United Nations system;

(b) Increasing investments to address critical areas of the Action Plan, including as regards policy development, resource tracking and allocation, the equal representation and participation of women and gender-responsive auditing, and to support capacity development;

(c) Continuing to better align gender equality programming with national priorities across sectors, including by supporting capacity-building for government institutions and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into legislations, policies and programmes in relation to national gender equality priorities;

(d) Continuing to include gender equality networks in planning and programme implementation, as well as continuing to build strategic partnerships with relevant actors, including civil society and women's organizations, as appropriate;

(e) Further enhancing the technical expertise on gender equality and gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system to assist in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistant Frameworks and other relevant development programming frameworks, ensuring that gender goals are strategically prioritized and that all their dimensions are systematically addressed, and promoting the identification and exchange of best practices and technical cooperation;

(f) Leveraging the leadership and convening role of resident coordinators to address gender equality as an integral part of the work of the United Nations country teams, including through joint initiatives, collective advocacy and strengthening coordination of gender-responsive operational activities across sectors;

(g) Supporting efforts by the governing bodies of United Nations entities to devote adequate attention to gender mainstreaming in their plans and activities;

(h) Enhancing the competence of staff in results-based management and programming for gender equality;

(i) Ensuring the tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use of gender markers that apply similar standards and principles to allow for comparability and aggregation;

(j) Promoting strategic advocacy and coherent communications on gender equality issues within the United Nations country teams;

(k) Continuing to work closely with the humanitarian coordinators to integrate gender equality into all facets of humanitarian action, and ensuring the equal promotion and protection of human rights for all, with equitable access to services;

(l) Substantially increasing the resources and focus on outcomes and outputs relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, including through better budgetary planning, common budgetary frameworks, strengthening and rationalizing joint funding mechanisms and joint resource mobilization efforts, as well as by strengthening the predictability and sustainability of the funding, broadening the donor base and increasing the flexibility of non-core resources;

(m) Continuing to support the capacity to develop and enhance standards and methodologies, for use at the national and international levels, so as to improve the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of accurate, reliable, transparent and comparable data and statistics, disaggregated by, inter alia, gender, age and disability, that are relevant to improving its guidance to country programming;

(n) Supporting the application of a gender perspective in the preparation of organization-wide and country-level documents, such as the strategic, programmatic and results-based frameworks and evaluations, and continuing to promote more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring and reporting on progress on gender equality, the impact of the promotion of gender equality and the use of common indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, taking into account the situation of women and girls who face discrimination and marginalization and those in vulnerable situations;

(o) Continuing to promote the institutionalization of transparency and robust accountability systems, with a focus on assessing gender mainstreaming, including at the level of United Nations country teams, through capitalizing on the lessons learned from the design and implementation of the System-wide Action Plan, while both expanding and drawing on assets and resources instituted to support the implementation of such transparency and accountability systems;

(p) Facilitating complementarity among accountability instruments at the global and country levels;

(q) Striving for both dedicated results at the outcome level and the mainstreaming of gender equality considerations through other priority areas;

(r) Ensuring adequate resources for meeting gender-related goals and targets across the post-2015 development framework;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2016, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the promotion of accountability at both the national and the global levels and on progress made in the implementation of the System-wide Action Plan.

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Economic and Social Council

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4 June 2015

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2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 18 (h)
Economic and environmental questions: international cooperation in tax matters

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea)

Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decides that the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters will be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 October 2015;

(b) Approves the following provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee:

1. Opening of the session by the Chair of the Committee.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion of substantive issues related to international cooperation in tax matters:
   - (a) Issues related to the updating of the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries:
     - (i) Article 1 (Persons covered): application of treaty rules to hybrid entities;
     - (ii) Article 5 (Permanent establishment): the meaning of "connected projects";
     - (iii) Article 8 (Shipping, inland waterways transport and air transport):

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a. The meaning and coverage of the term "auxiliary activities";

b. The application of the article to cruise shipping;

c. Other commentary issues;

(iv) Base erosion and profit shifting;

(v) Article 12 (Royalties):

a. The meaning of "industrial, commercial and scientific equipment";

b. Software payment-related issues;

(vi) Article 26 (Exchange of information): proposed Code of Conduct;

(vii) Taxation of services:

a. Article on technical services;

b. Other issues;

(b) Other issues:

(i) Issues for the next update of the United Nations Practical Manual on Transfer Pricing for Developing Countries;

(ii) Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries;

(iii) Taxation of the extractive industries;

(iv) Taxation of development projects;

(v) Capacity-building;

(vi) Dispute settlement: arbitration issues for developing countries and possible ways forward;

(vii) International trade in goods — tax issues.

4. Dates and provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Committee.

5. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its eleventh session.

United Nations E/2015/L.13

Economic and Social Council

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4 June 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 18 (a)
Economic and environmental questions: sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012, both on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the category of least developed countries,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 59/209, the General Assembly decided that graduation from the least developed country category becomes effective three years after the date on which the Assembly takes note of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy to graduate a country from the category and that, during the three-year period, the country remains on the list of least developed countries and maintain the advantages associated with membership on that list,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, by which the Assembly endorsed the Istanbul Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[1]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",

Recalling also its resolutions 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, 2007/34 of 27 July 2007 and 2013/20 of 24 July 2013,

Reiterating its conviction that no country graduating from the least developed country category should have its development progress disrupted or reversed,

[1] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

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Bearing in mind the importance of maintaining stability in the criteria and in the application of the established procedures for inclusion in and graduation from the least developed country category so as to ensure the credibility of the process and, consequently, of the category of least developed countries, while giving due consideration to the specific challenges and vulnerabilities and the development needs of countries potentially graduating or being considered for graduation from the least developed country category,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session;[2]

2. *Notes* the work done by the Committee on accountability for the post-2015 era, in accordance with the theme of the high-level segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council, on the triennial review of the least developed country category, on the monitoring of graduating and graduated countries from the category, on the fine-tuning of the human assets index and on the contribution of official development assistance to the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020;[3]

3. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that Angola be graduated from the least developed country category, and recommends that the General Assembly take note of this recommendation;

4. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Committee that Tuvalu be graduated from the least developed country category, and decides to further defer the consideration of this issue to its session in 2018, allowing for the Council to have an opportunity for further consideration of the particular challenges that Tuvalu faces;

5. *Calls upon* the Committee to continue to give due consideration to the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States in the least developed country category and to continue to monitor, on a regular basis, and together with their Governments, the progress of those States that have graduated from the least developed country status, and reaffirms the commitment expressed in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[4] to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerability of small island developing States;

6. *Requests* the Committee, at its eighteenth session, to examine and make recommendations on the annual theme of the 2016 session of the Council;

7. *Reiterates* the invitation by the General Assembly, as stated in its resolution 67/221 of 21 December 2012, for graduating countries to prepare their national transition strategy with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with their bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners and to report annually to the Committee on the preparation of that strategy;

8. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* the contributions made by the Committee to the various aspects of the programme of work of the Council, reiterates its invitation for increased interactions between the Council and the Committee for Development Policy, and encourages the Chair and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue this practice, as specified in Council resolution 2011/20 of 27 July 2011, within existing resources and as appropriate.

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[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 13* (E/2015/33).

[3] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

United Nations E/2015/L.14

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 June 2015

Original: English

2015 session
Agenda item 12 (f)
Coordination, programme and other questions: prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

Belarus, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan: draft resolution

United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2013/12 of 22 July 2013 and 2014/10 of 13 June 2014 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as the global burden of mental health and neurological issues constitute major challenges for the economic and social development in the twenty-first century and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases[1] and its recommendations, including to report annually on progress made in implementing Council resolution 2013/12;

2. *Encourages* members of the Task Force to continue to work together in a coordinated manner to support national efforts to implement the commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, building on guidance set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020;

[1] See E/2015/53.

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3. *Also encourages* the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to scale up the delivery of actions contained in the workplan of the Task Force;

4. *Further encourages* the Task Force to further enhance systematic support to Member States, upon request, at the national level, in efforts to support responses to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and mitigate their impacts, including through the establishment of a resident thematic group or equivalent entity on non-communicable diseases by United Nations country teams or incorporating non-communicable diseases into an existing thematic group, in order to ensure that these issues are integrated into health planning and national development plans and policies, including the design process and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session on progress achieved in implementing its resolution 2013/12, under the agenda item entitled "Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases", in preparation for a comprehensive review of the General Assembly, in 2018, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

United Nations E/2015/L.15

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
12 June 2015

Original: English

2015 session
Agenda item 9
Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mohamed Khaled Khiari (Tunisia), on the basis of informal consultations

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect those principles,

Recalling its decision 2015/210 of 15 May 2015, in which it decided that the theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2015 session would be "The future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness" and that it would convene two panel discussions under the segment,

Expressing deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States, the United Nations and their capacity caused by the impact of climate change, the ongoing consequences of the financial and economic crisis, regional food crises, continuing food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, epidemics, natural hazards and environmental degradation, which are adding to underdevelopment, poverty and inequality, and are increasing the vulnerability of people while reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises, emphasizing the need for resources for disaster risk reduction, preparedness and humanitarian assistance, including in developing countries, to be provided efficiently and effectively, and emphasizing also the need for development and humanitarian actors to work better together to strengthen resilience, including urban resilience, in terms of prevention, preparedness and response,

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Expressing grave concern at the unprecedented number of people affected and displaced by humanitarian emergencies, including frequently protracted displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies, which are increasing in number, scale and severity and are stretching humanitarian response capacities, recognizing the need for burden-sharing, and noting with appreciation efforts at the national and international levels that promote national capacity-building to address complex challenges in this regard,

Noting with great concern that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in emergency situations and that civilians remain the main victims of violations of international humanitarian law committed by parties to armed conflicts,

Condemning all attacks, threats and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, and expressing deep concern at the consequences of such attacks for the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations,

Emphasizing that building and strengthening resilience at the local, national and regional levels is critical to reducing the impact of disasters and vulnerabilities to hazards, and in this regard, while recognizing that building resilience is a long-term development process, stressing the need for enhanced investment in building national capacities for preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response, particularly in developing countries,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, emergency assistance will be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development and that emergency measures should be accompanied by development measures as a step towards the sustainable development of affected States, and in this regard highlighting the importance of closer cooperation between national stakeholders, including the private sector, as appropriate, and humanitarian and development actors,

Reaffirming that the specific needs and capacities of women, girls, men and boys of different ages, including persons with disabilities, must be mainstreamed into humanitarian assistance programming at all stages in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Recognizing that Member States and the United Nations system need to continue their efforts, including through strengthening partnerships at all levels with relevant stakeholders, in support of national efforts, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts adhere to humanitarian principles,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Encourages* United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant organizations, while strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, to continue to work in close coordination with national

[1] A/70/77-E/2015/64.

Governments, taking into account the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of such assistance within its territory;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to strengthen coordination, preparedness and response efforts and to improve the quality and effectiveness of humanitarian action, including through enhancing complementarity with and between relevant stakeholders, such as affected Governments, regional organizations, donors, development organizations, civil society and the private sector, involved in response efforts to make use of their comparative advantages and resources;

4. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should continue to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships, as well as by strengthening their capacity to build resilience, mitigate disaster risks and prepare for and respond to disasters, and also encourages Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance;

5. *Encourages* humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Governments, to consider, where appropriate, common risk-management and resilience objectives, achievable through joint assessment, analysis, planning, programming and funding and increased investment in preparedness, conducted in line with humanitarian principles, in order to reduce suffering and losses and the overall impact of humanitarian crises, and in this regard emphasizes that transitions from humanitarian response to longer-term development need to be planned over a multi-year framework, as appropriate, and linked with development planning processes, while integrating key stakeholders, such as Governments, regional organizations and international financial institutions, as appropriate;

6. *Also encourages* humanitarian and development organizations to consider applying, in coordination with national authorities, risk-management tools in order to allow for better use of baseline information and risk analysis, including analysis of the underlying causes of crises, the different vulnerabilities of countries and regions and the risk exposures of affected populations, and in this regard notes the further development of established tools, such as the Index for Risk Management, to include more data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and information regarding national and regional contexts, taking into account the environmental impact;

7. *Further encourages* United Nations agencies and international organizations to continue to improve the humanitarian programme cycle, including the development of coordinated needs assessment tools, such as the multisector initial rapid assessment, in consultation with the affected States, in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian action and to ensure that humanitarian emergency risk analysis is embedded at the core of humanitarian strategic planning,

encourages international humanitarian organizations and relevant actors to continue to work with national and local authorities as well as with civil society and affected populations, and recognizes the role of affected communities in identifying urgent needs and requirements in order to ensure an efficient response;

8. *Welcomes the adoption* of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015 and its areas of focus, including on enhancing disaster risk reduction, resilience and preparedness, in order to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

9. *Encourages* Member States, as well as relevant regional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to continue to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, especially for those countries that are particularly vulnerable;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to further strengthen their efforts in supporting national Governments in mapping emergency preparedness and response capacities at the country and regional levels, in order to better facilitate the complementarity of disaster response efforts between national and international capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to promote, as appropriate, the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance and to integrate risk management into national development plans;

11. *Requests* Member States, relevant organizations and other relevant actors to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all stages of humanitarian response through addressing the specific needs, challenges and coping capacities of women, girls, men and boys on an equal basis, taking into consideration age and disability, including through the improved collection, analysis, reporting and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and taking into account information provided by affected States, and to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making processes in order to increase the effectiveness of humanitarian action, and encourages greater use of the gender marker and other monitoring tools throughout the humanitarian programme cycle;

12. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure reliable and safe access to sexual and reproductive health-care services in order to protect women and adolescent girls and infants from preventable mortality and morbidity;

13. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for victims and survivors of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in that regard;

14. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including clean water, food, shelter, health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and protection, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources,

while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

15. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to understand and address the different protection needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable, in humanitarian crises and ensure that these needs are adequately integrated into preparedness, response and recovery efforts;

16. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies operating within their borders, and in other territories under their effective control, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory or in other territories under their effective control are held accountable, as provided for by national laws and in accordance with their obligations under international law;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring safe and enabling learning environments and quality education in humanitarian emergencies, in particular for the well-being of all girls and boys, to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development, and in this regard reiterates the need to protect and respect educational facilities in accordance with international humanitarian law and strongly condemns all attacks directed against schools in contravention of international humanitarian law;

18. *Requests* Member States to strengthen their efforts to ensure better protection of and assistance for internally displaced persons, in particular to address the long-term nature of displacement, by adopting and implementing policies and strategies in accordance with national and regional frameworks, while recognizing the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[2] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and in this regard recognizes the central role of national and local authorities and institutions in addressing the specific needs of internally displaced persons and in finding solutions to displacement through, inter alia, continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building of States;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant organizations and actors to recognize and address the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants and to strengthen coordinated international efforts for their assistance and protection in concert with national authorities;

20. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to lead the efforts to strengthen the coordination, effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian assistance through, inter alia, continued and enhanced dialogue with Member States, including on the processes, activities and decisions of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and encourages Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations, and all other relevant actors to continue to work and improve cooperation with the Office for the

[2] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to ensure effective and efficient delivery of the humanitarian response to affected people;

21. *Recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need to enhance the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

22. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately addressed;

23. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to support Member States, in particular developing countries, in promoting innovation through, inter alia, increasing investment in research and development leading to innovation and access to information and communications technologies, and to identify, promote and integrate best practices and lessons learned with regard to, inter alia, partnerships, procurement, collaboration and coordination between agencies and organizations, and in this regard notes the importance of promoting and supporting innovation and developing local capacities as a priority and welcomes innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by humanitarian emergencies to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimum logistical and infrastructure implications;

24. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law;

25. *Calls upon* all States and parties to comply with the provisions of international humanitarian law, including all the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[3] in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories, and in this regard urges the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen humanitarian assistance to civilians in those situations;

26. *Urges* all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance to fully commit to and duly respect the guiding principles contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182, including the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality as well as the principle of independence, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 58/114 of 17 December 2003;

27. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow humanitarian personnel to perform efficiently their task

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

28. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to identify solutions to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard requests the Secretary General to address further the insufficient diversity in geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of humanitarian staff of the United Nations, in particular regarding professional and high-level staff;

29. *Encourages* efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries with the affected States, recognizes that humanitarian assistance should be provided in ways that are supportive of early recovery, sustainable rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development, and recalls that early recovery requires timely, effective and predictable funding through humanitarian and development financing, as appropriate, to meet enduring humanitarian, recovery and post-crises priorities while simultaneously building national and local capacities;

30. *Recognizes* that funding needs to be more flexible to allow for a complementary approach in order to effectively and sufficiently address the immediate needs of all affected populations in emergency situations, including for underfunded and forgotten emergencies and those of a long-term nature, and the underlying causes of crises, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system, the private sector and other relevant entities to provide adequate funding and investment in building preparedness and resilience-building, including from humanitarian and development budgets, as well as unearmarked core funding and flexible funding for multi-year appeals, in order to bridge the divide between humanitarian and development financing;

31. *Stresses* the need to enhance resource mobilization efforts to address the increasing capacity and resource gap, including through additional contributions from non-traditional donors, exploring innovative mechanisms, such as the utilization of risk-informed anticipatory decision-making, flexible funding for multi-year appeals through existing tools such as consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds, such as the country-based pooled funds, and to continue to broaden partnerships and the donor base in order to increase the predictability and effectiveness of funding, and to promote South-South and horizontal and triangular cooperation globally, and in this regard encourages, as appropriate, Member States to contribute to the humanitarian appeals brought forward by the United Nations;

32. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, aimed at sharing knowledge and best practices in the humanitarian field to improve the coordination, capacity and effectiveness of humanitarian response, and requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to ensure an inclusive, consultative and transparent preparatory process that includes the participation and contributions of Member States and stakeholders in the process and outcome of the Summit, and in

this regard requests the Secretary-General to further engage with Member States in the process and outcome of the Summit;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

34. *Requests* the Presidents of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to continue their efforts with a view to eliminating duplication between the resolutions of the Council and the Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, while promoting their complementarity.

United Nations E/2015/L.16

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Agenda item 7
Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, María Emma Mejía Vélez (Colombia), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution E/2015/L.3

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 67/226 of 21 December 2012, 68/229 of 20 December 2013 and 69/238 of 19 December 2014 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2013/5 of 12 July 2013 and 2014/14 of 14 July 2014, in which key system-wide policy orientations were established for development cooperation at both the Headquarters and the country levels,

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full implementation of the system-wide policy orientations established in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling the critical role of the Council in providing coordination, monitoring and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented in a full and timely manner on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 65/285 of 29 June 2011, 67/226 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible

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manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Recognizing the importance and the catalytic role of predictable official development assistance for international development,

Introduction

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system; [1]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and all relevant entities, to improve the comprehensiveness and coherence of the monitoring and reporting framework for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, which contributes to a better understanding of annual progress and gaps in its implementation;

3. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to make every effort to improve monitoring and data collection methods with a view to contributing towards further enhancement of the analytical quality of the report of the Secretary-General on operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the United Nations development system to provide quality inputs and appropriate updates to the report of the Secretary-General with a view to continuing to improve evidence-based, high-quality analytical reporting on the operational activities for development, address challenges and contribute to enhancing the implementation of system-wide mandates, while stressing the need to minimize transaction costs associated with reporting;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management fully align their efforts to monitor the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and align their work in the area of operational activities for development with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, and in this regard notes their respective action plans on the harmonization of business practices, and requests the Secretary-General to include a comprehensive update on such efforts, including challenges faced, in his report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not already done so to consolidate their annual reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review within their reporting on the implementation of their strategic plans;

7. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to improve the quality of their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Urges* entities of the United Nations development system with operational activities for development that have not done so to fully align their

[1] A/70/62-E/2015/4.

strategic plans and their strategic planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, taking into account their respective mandates;

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

9. *Reiterates* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard recognizes the need for the organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources and to report to the Council in 2016, as part of their regular reporting, on the measures taken to address this imbalance;

10. *Notes* that the majority of the increase in funding for the United Nations development system between 1998 and 2013 was in the form of non-core resources, resulting in an imbalance between core and non-core resources, and notes with concern that the percentage of core resources in the overall funding for operational activities continued to decline, representing only 25 per cent in 2013;

11. *Also notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of the United Nations development system and complement core resources in supporting operational activities for development, thereby contributing to an increase in total resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources more flexible, more predictable and better aligned with strategic plans and national priorities and recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

12. *Recognizes* that non-core resources pose challenges, in particular restricted earmarked funding such as single-donor project-specific funding, by potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, competition and overlap among entities and providing disincentives for pursuing an Organization-wide focus, strategic positioning and coherence, and may also potentially distort programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes;

13. *Notes with concern* in this regard that contributions to pooled funding arrangements, such as thematic funds of entities and United Nations multi-partner trust funds and joint programmes, accounted for only 8 per cent of non-core resource flows to development-related activities in 2013, and encourages all contributors of non-core resources to expand the use of less-restricted earmarked funding arrangements;

14. *Notes* the initiatives launched by the United Nations development system through the United Nations Development Group, in line with resolution 67/226, aimed at further strengthening the use and management of joint funding mechanisms and approaches in order to improve the quality of non-core resources, and urges the United Nations development system to ensure that non-core resources are fully aligned with national needs and priorities and with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

15. *Recalls* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 with respect to taking concrete measures to broaden the donor base, and reiterates its requests to the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to report annually as part of their regular reporting to their governing bodies on concrete measures taken to broaden the donor base and

increase the number of countries and other partners making contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors;

16. *Notes* the contributions from various sources of funding for development-related activities in 2013, as well as the increase since 2007 of development-related contributions from multilateral organizations, global funds and non-governmental and private sources;

17. *Notes with concern* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 with respect to the development and operationalization of the concept of the critical mass of core resources was not fulfilled as originally foreseen, notes the adoption in 2014 by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services of decisions 2014/24 and 2014/25 and the adoption by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund of decision 2014/17, in which they noted common principles for the concept of the critical mass of resources and core resources, requests the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund to consult further with Member States on ways to ensure a critical mass of core resources, for consideration and action during the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, and reiterates the request to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not yet done so to define common principles for the concept of the critical mass of core resources, which may include the level of resources adequate to respond to the needs of programme countries and to produce the results expected in the strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme costs, in consultation with Member States, with a view to a decision by their respective governing bodies in 2016;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations country teams to adopt the use of common budgetary frameworks as a practice as soon as possible, which would not constitute a legal constraint on resource spending authority, and requests United Nations funds and programmes and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to provide the necessary information on contributions to the resident coordinators upon agreement with programme countries, improve the timeliness and quality of information provided and ensure that the common budgetary framework is a useful and effective instrument for strengthening the quality of system-wide resource planning in support of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

19. *Stresses* the need to avoid the use of core/regular resources to subsidize non-core/extrabudgetary activities, reaffirms that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core funding sources, and in this regard looks forward to the independent and external assessment, agreed by the executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to be performed in 2016, of the consistency and alignment of the new cost-recovery methodology with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

20. *Takes note* of decisions 2014/24 and 2014/25 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services, 2014/17 of the Executive Board

of the United Nations Children's Fund and 2014/6 of the Executive Board of UN-Women on the organization of structured dialogues with Member States on ways to finance the development results agreed in the strategic planning cycle of the respective entities, and in this regard requests the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, as appropriate, to organize such structured dialogues on an annual basis, as part of their regular meeting schedule, with a view to making non-core resources more predictable and less restricted/earmarked, broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows;

21. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to ensure that available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated within an integrated budgetary framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans, and encourages all agencies that have not already done so to develop such integrated frameworks in their next budget cycle;

Contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations to national capacity development and development effectiveness

22. *Reaffirms* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2013/5 and 2014/14 with respect to the request to the United Nations development system to develop, for the consideration of Member States, a common approach for measuring progress in capacity development, including measures to ensure long-term impact, as well as specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacity to achieve national development goals and strategies, notes the work under way by the United Nations Development Group in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General to include, in his report on the implementation of Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, information on steps taken in this regard;

23. *Notes* that national monitoring and reporting systems and national procurement, financial and evaluation capacities have been underused, and in this regard reiterates the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 that the United Nations development system make increased use of national public and private systems for support services as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to the Council in 2016, in consultation with Member States, information on steps taken by entities of the United Nations development system to strengthen and use national capacities, including ensuring the long-term impact of capacities built, and to make proposals to address any obstacles and challenges;

25. *Requests* the funds and programmes of the United Nations development system and invites the specialized agencies to consider the findings and observations related to national capacity gaps repeatedly highlighted by programme countries to be addressed through the work of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including through the strengthening and

use of national capacities, and to report to their governing bodies in 2016 with recommendations for implementation in this regard;

Poverty eradication

26. *Welcomes* the integration of poverty eradication, as the overarching priority, into the strategic plans of some United Nations system organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

27. *Reaffirms* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development in developing countries, particularly in Africa, and underlines the importance of accelerating sustainable, broad-based, inclusive and equitable economic growth for the benefit of all people and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

28. *Also reaffirms* the call by the General Assembly, contained in its resolution 67/226, for the organizations of the United Nations development system to assign the highest priority to the eradication of poverty, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to include in their regular reporting to the Council information on steps taken, in accordance with their mandates, on the scaling up of efforts to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger, sharing of good practices, lessons learned, strategies, programmes and policies, inter alia, capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training, rural development and the mobilization of resources, which aim at achieving poverty eradication and promoting the active participation of those living in poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies;

29. *Notes* the ongoing efforts made by the United Nations development system to support programme countries in the eradication of poverty, including through the use of the Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework by some United Nations country teams, and as part of efforts by the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force to strengthen coordination on acceleration of the Millennium Development Goals;

South-South cooperation

30. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

31. *Recalls* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on strengthening South-South cooperation, and reaffirms in this regard decision 18/1 of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation,[2] which contains, inter alia, measures to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, including through improved allocation of resources across the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

32. *Notes* the continued demand of programme countries for United Nations support for South-South cooperation, reiterates in this regard its request to the heads of the specialized agencies, United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions to pay special attention to the implementation of projects related to

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/69/39), chap. I.

South-South cooperation, including those managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

33. *Also notes*, in this regard, the efforts to improve reporting on and evaluation of support to South-South cooperation as a specific modality as well as the progress made by some entities of the United Nations development system in mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into their key policies, strategic frameworks, operational activities and budgets, while emphasizing the need to overcome the obstacles facing the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South cooperation;

34. *Further notes* that further deliberation by Member States on the option presented by Secretary-General in his report on measures to further strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation[3] will be required, and in this regard looks forward to the Secretary-General presenting his comprehensive proposal to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation;

35. *Recalls* the request contained in decision 18/1 of the High-level Committee for South-South Cooperation to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to establish a more formalized and strengthened inter-agency mechanism coordinated by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, with a view to encouraging joint support to South-South and triangular initiatives, as well as sharing information on development activities and results achieved by various organizations through their respective business models in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, calls upon the United Nations development system to designate representational focal points to join the mechanism, and requests the Administrator to give the Office for South-South Cooperation the opportunity to be represented more regularly in strategic and coordination mechanisms of the Development Group when matters affecting South-South and triangular cooperation are being discussed;

36. *Takes note* in this regard of the establishment of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team and its terms of reference and requests the full completion of its mandate by the end of 2016;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to present, as part of his report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, recommendations based on a thorough analysis of incentives for and challenges to the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South and triangular cooperation as well as the Office for South-South Cooperation, including lessons learned from the implementation of successful South-South and triangular cooperation projects and programmes;

38. *Calls upon* the funds, programmes and agencies that have not done so to undertake evaluations and assessments of South-South cooperation with a view to informing their institutional policies and strategies and to ensuring that the solutions

[3] SSC/18/3.

and expertise of the South are integrated in the United Nations operational activities in an effective and efficient manner;

39. *Reaffirms* the call in paragraph 77 of General Assembly resolution 67/226 for all countries in a position to do so, as well as other stakeholders, to increase their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, especially by providing technical assistance and mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to clarify for Member States, as part of their regular briefings, the role of all stakeholders and the action taken so far by such entities in this regard;

Gender equality and women's empowerment

40. *Notes with appreciation* the progress of entities of the United Nations development system in implementing mandates contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on gender equality and women's empowerment, including on the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and requests those entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to accelerate efforts to implement the Action Plan with a view to meeting its performance standards by 2017;

41. *Reaffirms* the requests contained in resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system and to expand the use of the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the "scorecard") as a planning and reporting tool for use by country teams in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and welcomes the global review of the gender scorecard tool being undertaken by the United Nations development system;

Transition from relief to development

42. *Reaffirms* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to accelerate progress in deepening coordination between Secretariat entities and members of the United Nations development system, inter alia, through the simplification and harmonization of programming instruments and processes and business practices, with a view to providing effective, efficient and responsive support to national efforts in countries in transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council comprehensive and evidence-based updates on progress and challenges in this regard;

43. *Notes* the importance of transparency and consultation with Member States in the context of operational activities for development on the implementation of the policy on integrated assessment and planning and the policy on United Nations transitions in the context of mission drawdown or withdrawal, as approved by the Secretary-General and the Integration Steering Group, stresses the need in this regard for transitional activities from relief to sustainable development to be undertaken under national ownership, and requests the Secretary-General to share information with and seek views of Member States on the interlinkages between operational activities for development of the United Nations development system and the implementation and review of those elements of these policies which

relate to operational activities for development of the United Nations development system;

44. *Also notes* that the United Nations development system continues to strengthen its efforts in disaster risk reduction, including in organization-wide strategic frameworks and in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

45. *Urges* the United Nations development system to ensure that its support to recovery serves to bridge short-term emergency response and long-term development efforts by paying due attention to social, economic and environmental dimensions of development needed for full recovery and for strengthening resilience leading to sustainable development, inter alia, by prioritizing tools, including but not limited to local procurement, cash transfers and social safety nets, where appropriate;

46. *Takes note* of the increased coordination between United Nations country teams and the Bretton Woods institutions in countries in transition from relief to development, and calls upon the country teams to continue to strengthen such coordination at the strategic level, including joint assessments, planning and results frameworks, funding mechanisms and staff secondment;

47. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations development system, as requested, to support inclusive country-level and country-owned transition from relief to development in countries affected by natural disasters or conflict, based on country-led assessments, and underlines the importance of building strong partnerships by providing aid and managing resources more effectively and aligning these resources for results, in line with country priorities, and by enhancing transparency, risk management and the use of country systems, strengthening national capacities and the timeliness of aid and improving the speed and predictability of funding to achieve better results, while underlining the importance of thorough planning and coordination between the United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat, within their respective mandates, to better respond to the needs and priorities of the affected States;

United Nations Development Assistance Framework

48. *Stresses* the importance of regular reporting from the United Nations development system at the country level, requests in this regard United Nations country teams to comply strictly with existing reporting requirements, namely those regarding the once per cycle progress report on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the evaluation report on the Development Assistance Framework in all programme countries, and, in addition, annual country results reports and evaluation reports in "Delivering as one" countries to programme country Governments, also requests United Nations country teams to share with programme country Governments, where available, all country progress reports, reviews and evaluations, and further requests that information on compliance be included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

49. *Requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that reports to the Governments of programme countries are structured around the United Nations Development Assistance Framework or common planning framework

outcomes, are linked to national development results and inform the Governments of programme countries of the results achieved by the United Nations country team as a whole, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

50. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to improve the balance of effective and efficient reporting on contributions to national results, the outcomes of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework or other common planning frameworks and the strategic plan outcomes of individual agencies, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

Resident coordinator system

51. *Acknowledges* that the resident coordinator system, encompassing all organizations of the United Nations system dealing with operational activities for development, aims at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities at the country level through the promotion of more strategic support for national plans and priorities, makes operations more efficient and reduces transaction costs for Governments;

52. *Notes* progress made in strengthening the capacity of resident coordinator offices with a view to enhancing the coherence and effectiveness at the country level through improved access of the resident coordinator offices to the expertise and technical resources available within the United Nations development system, and in this regard calls for further measures to address particular challenges for resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators working in countries in transition from relief to development, in order to improve performance and effectiveness;

53. *Reiterates* the importance of the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes in this regard progress achieved in implementing the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system for 2015, in this regard strongly requests entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to take appropriate actions to implement the agreement, subject to the approval of their governing bodies and without impacting programme delivery, including by paying their contribution in full, noting that the General Assembly has yet to approve the contribution of the Secretariat to the agreement, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council updates on agency-specific progress in this regard;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system, and in consultation with all entities of the United Nations development system, to make proposals to the Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016 on ways to further develop the cost-sharing agreement in order to address the effective needs of the system, as part of his regular reporting;

55. *Notes* the broadened and strengthened leadership role of the resident coordinator as defined in the updated generic job description for this position, and underscores the need, as appropriate, to enable the resident coordinator to fill that role, inter alia, by strengthening the capacity of resident coordinator offices and through the effectiveness of the functional firewall between the resident coordinator and the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme;

56. *Also notes* the progress by United Nations entities in institutionalizing the management and accountability system of the resident coordinator system, requests United Nations entities that have not yet fully implemented the management and accountability system to do so as a matter of priority, and requests all funds and programmes, and encourages all specialized agencies, to include the formal input of the resident coordinator in the performance appraisals of their agency representatives;

57. *Reaffirms* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 with respect to the resident coordinator system, reaffirms the importance of achieving diversification in the composition of the resident coordinator system in terms of geographical distribution and gender, also reaffirms the importance of the participation of all agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system on an equal footing in the resident coordinator system, requests the Secretary-General to make every effort in this regard to ensure the full application of these principles in the appointment of resident coordinators, notes the establishment in May 2014 of the new Resident Coordinator Assessment Centre, in this regard encourages all agencies to nominate qualified candidates for the Centre, and requests the United Nations development system to continue to identify solutions in order to strengthen its ability to efficiently recruit and deploy experienced resident coordinators at the appropriate level of seniority who meet the highest standards of integrity;

"Delivering as one"

58. *Reaffirms* that the "no one size fits all" approach and the principle of the voluntary adoption of the "Delivering as one" approach should be maintained so that the United Nations system can tailor its approach to partnership with the individual programme countries in a way that best suits their national needs, realities, priorities and planning modalities;

59. *Welcomes* the release of the standard operating procedures for countries adopting the "Delivering as one" approach and the integrated package of support for implementation by country teams, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes, and strongly encourages the specialized agencies, to take appropriate actions to fully and coherently implement the standard operating procedures, including the United Nations Development Group plan of action for Headquarters, and to report annually on progress in this regard at the annual meeting of their respective governing bodies;

60. *Notes with appreciation* progress in addressing Headquarters-level bottlenecks to implementing the "Delivering as one" approach, and requests the United Nations development system to resolve remaining bottlenecks and challenges in order to ensure full implementation of "Delivering as one" in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

61. *Recognizes* that pooled funding mechanisms are important tools in advancing "Delivering as one" in countries wishing to adopt this approach, and encourages donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to prioritize the use of such mechanisms in order to maximize the impact of the "Delivering as one" reforms in those countries;

62. *Notes* that the concept of "operating as one" has progressed in some areas, and urges the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management to take the appropriate measures to accelerate progress

in fully operationalizing the concept of "operating as one", including by bringing to scale common services based on successful field practices;

Regional dimensions

63. *Notes* the improvements in collaboration between regional United Nations Development Group teams and regional coordination mechanisms, and in this regard requests regional teams and regional coordination mechanisms to continue to strengthen their support to United Nations country teams, including in the formulation of development assistance frameworks and on priority regional or subregional issues of relevance, and in line with national Government priorities;

Simplification and harmonization of business practices

64. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to accelerate the implementation of the system-wide action plans of the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management for the simplification and harmonization of business practices and to report on progress made to their respective executive boards in 2015;

65. *Notes* the updates from the United Nations funds and programmes on progress made on the common definition of operating costs and a common and standardized system of cost control, paying due attention to their different business models, and requests further updates to their respective executive boards as appropriate, with a view to taking a decision on this issue in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

66. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2016, as part of his regular reporting, on the achievement of the full system-wide interoperability of enterprise resource planning systems in 2016 in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

67. *Calls upon* all relevant members of the system to participate in the piloting and possible establishment of national and/or multi-country common service centres, with the objective that such centres provide long-term and system-wide cost savings while ensuring higher or equal quality of services and, within their mandates, ensuring that efficiency savings are used for programme activities with a view to building national capacities in programme countries;

68. *Notes* that some entities of the United Nations development system are establishing agency-specific regional or global service centres, and in this regard urges that this practice not detract from the piloting and possible establishment of national and/or multi-country common service centres;

69. *Encourages* all United Nations country teams to develop country-level business operation strategies, and recognizes that it is essential to ensure that United Nations country teams, including specialized agencies, are made accountable for the design and implementation of such strategies, including United Nations common service centres or units, that are harmonized, cost-efficient, and tailored to their country-specific requirements and that enhance programme quality;

Results-based management

70. *Requests* the United Nations development system, in the context of strengthening results-based management and reporting at the United Nations country team level, including reporting to Governments of programme countries, to

develop common approaches and definitions with regard to measuring results and to harmonize indicators where possible, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to update the Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016, as part of his regular reporting;

71. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that its results-based management systems are not developed in isolation from national systems, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system to engage closely with national Governments on results-based management and with respect to the ways in which the results achieved by United Nations development assistance activities at the national level are defined, measured and reported on, and, upon request, to provide support to those Governments and partner institutions that wish to introduce or adapt results-based management as part of their monitoring and statistical systems;

Evaluation of operational activities for development

72. *Recalls* the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 68/229 that two pilot independent system-wide evaluations should be conducted in 2014 on the themes set out therein, subject to the provision and availability of extrabudgetary resources, calls for the acceleration of progress, reiterates its invitation to countries in a position to do so to contribute extrabudgetary resources for the effective and accelerated implementation of these evaluations in 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update to the Council on progress in the implementation of the evaluations at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016;

Follow-up

73. *Requests* all entities of the United Nations development system to ensure consistency and alignment with the post-2015 development agenda, once adopted, in the context of midterm reviews and the elaboration of strategic plans and frameworks;

74. *Recalls* its resolution 2014/14, and welcomes the launch of the transparent and inclusive dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system and the sessions held since December 2014;

75. *Welcomes* the road map for continuing the dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in 2015 and 2016 involving Member States and all relevant stakeholders, including the proposed workshops and retreats, which will consider the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, including proposals for the reform of their composition and functioning, capacity and impact of the United Nations development system, partnership approaches and organizational arrangements, and looks forward to this dialogue being reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and action by Member States during the seventy-first session of the Assembly in 2016.

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Economic and Social Council

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2015 session
Agenda item 18 (d)
Economic and environmental questions: human settlements

South Africa:* draft resolution

Human settlements

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and decisions on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[1]

Recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled "The future we want", and 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013 and 69/226 of 19 December 2014, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[2]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on its twenty-fifth session[3] and the resolutions contained therein;

3. *Encourages* Member States to continue to give appropriate consideration to the role of urbanization in sustainable development in their discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals and to ensure policy coherence in the implementation of post-2015 development;

4. *Invites* Member States to adopt approaches that encourage participation of relevant stakeholders, civil society and levels of subnational government, as

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] E/2015/72.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/70/8).

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appropriate, in order to foster discussions on economic, social and environmental sustainability;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring consistency and coherence in the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on agenda items related to the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as with the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and across the current consultations on major global issues, including on the third International Conference on Financing for Development, on the post-2015 development agenda and on climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[4]

6. *Invites* the General Assembly at its seventieth session to discuss the most appropriate way, including the possibility of convening an extraordinary session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, to advance negotiations on the outstanding issues in the preparations for the Conference, including the draft provisional rules of procedure, arrangements for accreditation and participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the preparatory process and in Habitat III, as well as other issues that might arise in the interim, and the proposals of the Secretary-General of the Conference on improved participation of local authorities and other stakeholders in the preparatory process and the Conference itself, building on the positive experience enabled by the rules of procedure and inclusive modalities of Habitat II, in order for the measures put in place to be effective for the third session of the Preparatory Committee;

7. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen national urban policies in order to provide for coordinated development of urban settlements of all sizes and to fully harness the potential contribution of sustainable urbanization and human settlements to sustainable development;

8. *Decides* to transmit to the General Assembly for consideration at its seventieth session the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council for consideration at its substantive session of 2016 a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

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[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.